

Volume 25, Issue 3, March 1993

CAROLINA COUNTRY

Hi, ho, Silver Screen!

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Revisiting Albemarle

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The Tulips of Terra Ceia

Page 20

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A sunny Sara De Hoog surrounded by Terra Ceia's tulips. See story on page 20. Sara is the daughter of Earl and Nancy De Hoog, who are consumer-members of Tideland EMC, Pantego. (Photo by Irene Vander Weit.)



Grassroots political action that works

By R.B. Sloan Jr.

When the 110 freshmen members of the 103rd Congress gathered on the Capitol steps in January for the traditional "class picture," photographers had to work at squeezing everybody into a pleasing portrait.

The incident may prove to be symbolic of what lies ahead for Congress as it addresses the critical issues facing our nation. It has discarded or redefined a number of Capitol Hill traditions. Others had already been toppled due to redistricting and the November elections.

These changes obviously will have important implications for the legislative process. Issues of particular concern to rural citizens—including those affecting the rural electric co-ops—will almost certainly face tougher sledding because of reduced congressional allegiances to rural areas.

Here's how Congress has changed:

- Redistricting brought a 13 percent increase in the population base of each House district at a time when

rural areas were experiencing little or no growth. Each district's base rose by 66,000 people—most of them from urban areas.

- Fewer than 50 House seats are now defined as rural and agricultural.

- House Democrats have extended voting rights to representatives of four U.S. territories and the District of Columbia—areas that have no grassroots rural constituency.

- When a bill comes before the body, it must garner at least 221 to pass. If all 50 members from rural areas support it, that's 171 short. The deficit must be made up among urban delegates.

Meanwhile, the Senate has also changed, with the rural areas losing some stalwart friends. But Washington observers believe several new members of this club will prove to be strong allies of rural interests.



R.B. Sloan Jr.

Despite the changes, the co-ops hope to draw "bipartisan support" from rural and urban members of the two houses. Co-ops across the country maintain close ties with many urban members by "adopting" them, which entails keeping them informed about key rural electric issues.

In addition, the co-ops' state and national political action committees command broad respect, and that leads many House and Senate candidates to seek their support while campaigning. As a result, the co-ops can educate future congressmen about their concerns long before any legislative issues hang in the balance.

These initiatives are augmented by other efforts on the part of volunteers who regularly represent the co-ops through phone calls and personal visits with congressmen, senators and their aides. Government relations professionals also make such contacts but the co-ops' banner is raised most effectively by the volunteers—co-op directors, employees and consumers who want to advance the rural electric program's goals.

These activities must be intensified to assure that the concerns of the co-ops are effectively articulated on Capitol Hill. This is grassroots political action that works, helping to keep elected officials abreast of issues affecting rural Americans.

Without it, these issues could easily be edged out of the legislative picture entirely. And there will be no camera wizardry to squeeze them back into the crowded scene.

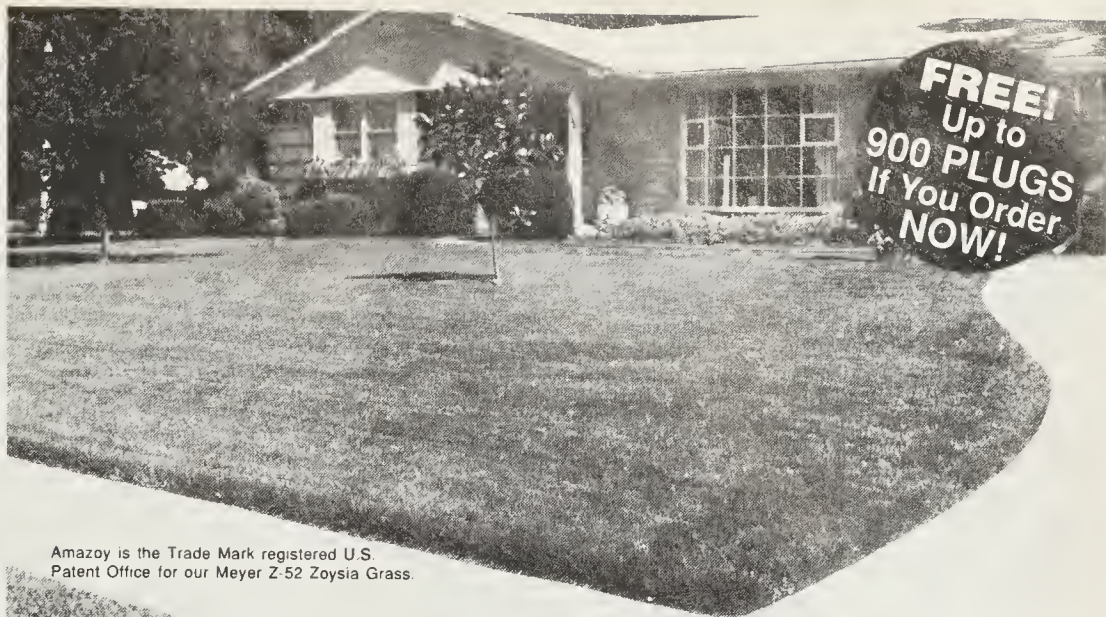
R.B. Sloan Jr., executive vice president of Crescent EMC, Statesville, is chairman of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority and the rural electric program's political action committee.



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The Big Reel keeps on rolling

By Kim Whorton
Staff Writer

Lash LaRue and Tom Mix are still riding tall in the saddle—not in the Wild West, not on the silver screen, but in North Carolina's Rockingham County.

These stars of western films from bygone days continue to thrill fans around the world, thanks to the House of Stars, located on U.S. 220 about five miles outside Madison.

The House of Stars is home to a publishing company and a newspaper that reaches an international audience of film and movie memorabilia collectors. Although it specializes in western films and memorabilia, the House of Stars deals with all types of movies.

The man behind the House of Stars is Donald Key. In 1973, he attended a film convention in Memphis, where he met other movie memorabilia collectors.

"That's when I really became interested in starting a newspaper for collectors," said Key.

It began as an eight-page newsletter. Today, The Big Reel is a whopping 140-page monthly tabloid published by Key's staff at the House of Stars. Response to the newspaper

was so gratifying after the first year and a half that Key quit his job selling mobile homes and cars to concentrate on publishing.

Since then, the newspaper has grown dramatically. Its 4,000 subscribers across the United States and in 20 foreign countries find it an effective means to communicate with one another. One subscriber, Key said, has already paid for his subscription through 1999. And Key recalled another devoted collector who said he would, "rather do

without food than The Big Reel."

The Big Reel publishes readers' remembrances about old-time movie stars, factual articles about celebrities, reports and photos of nostalgia film conventions, and advertisements for buying, selling and trading old movies.

The number of people who are active collectors of films and memorabilia is enormous. Key estimates that there may be about 10,000 collectors of full-length, 16-mm movie prints and as many as one million people who collect some kind of movie memorabilia.

He said avid movie collectors will pay thousands of dollars for certain films. For example, through The Big Reel, a print of the film "Lawrence of Arabia" sold for \$1,500, while "Cone With the Wind" went for \$2,000.

Some collectors love to attend nostalgia film conventions where they might come face to face with their favorite stars. By attending such events in various parts of the country, Key has met more than 300 celebri-



From "The Roy Rogers Book," published by Empire in 1957.

ties, including Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, Jimmy Stewart, Jane Russell, Rita Hayworth, Lash LaRue and Jonathan Winters. Key said the stars who visit these shows are not paid, they just enjoy mingling with their fans.

In addition to his newspaper, Key also oversees Empire Publishing, a small book publishing house that chooses its titles carefully—usually publishing only one a year—and sticks mainly to those with a western theme. Writers submit manuscripts, hoping they will be chosen to join the company's exclusive stable of authors. The books that are chosen are advertised and sold via *The Big Reel*.

Empire Publishing has published books on such great western stars as Gene Autry, Iron Eyes Cody, Roy Rogers and Tom Mix.

The House of Stars also has an extensive library of photographs of stars, new and old, ranging from Bob Steele to Madonna. Black-and-white or color 8-by-10's are showcased in the House of Stars photo catalog, which can be ordered for \$2.



Richard "Captain Midnight" Webb, left, with publisher Donald Key in Hollywood.

Prices vary, but some of the photographs of stars in Key's collection include Al Pacino, Glenn Close, Lucille Ball, John Kennedy, Harrison Ford, Clark Gable and a complete

collection of western stars.

Although most business is mail-order, people are welcome to visit the House of Stars and browse.

"I'll even give you the nickel tour," said Key, whose operation is served by Davidson Electric Membership Corporation, Lexington.

But what is a film and memorabilia trading post doing in the countryside near the community of Madison?

"People always say we're in the wrong place—that we should be in a big city," Key said. "But I wouldn't consider leaving North Carolina. I've never found a better place to live."

For a copy of *The Big Reel*, send \$3 to *The Big Reel*, 3130 U.S. 220, Madison, N.C. 27025. Subscriptions are \$25 per year.

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Country Kitchen



Mrs. Kam says this recipe, "is one of my family's favorites for cold weather days." It came from her grandmother, Massie Donie Ferrell.

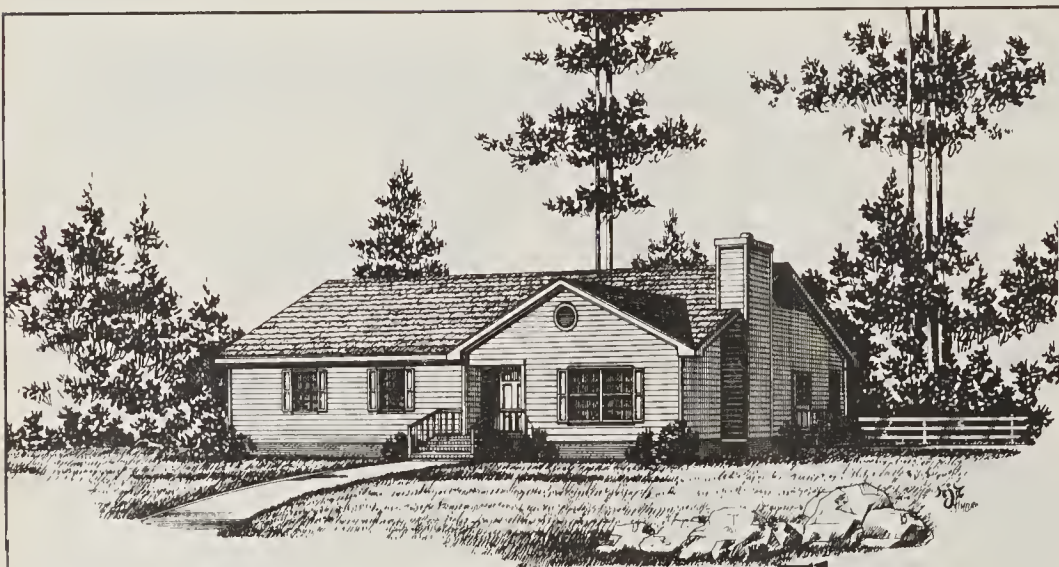
Carolina beef soup

Submitted by Mary Baum Kam, Elizabeth City

1½ pounds of stewing beef
¼ cup apple cider vinegar
Salt and pepper to taste
28-ounce can of whole tomatoes or fresh tomatoes, chopped
3 medium-sized onions, sliced
½ bag (8 ounces) frozen mixed vegetables
4 beef bouillon cubes
¼ cup catsup
1 cup small macaroni shells



In a large pot, boil stewing beef in vinegar until tender. Sprinkle salt and pepper over beef. Add tomatoes, onions, mixed vegetables, bouillon cubes and catsup. Simmer until vegetables are tender. Just before soup is done, put in macaroni shells and cook until they are tender. Serve with crackers, corn bread or rice. (Serves 8 to 10 people.)



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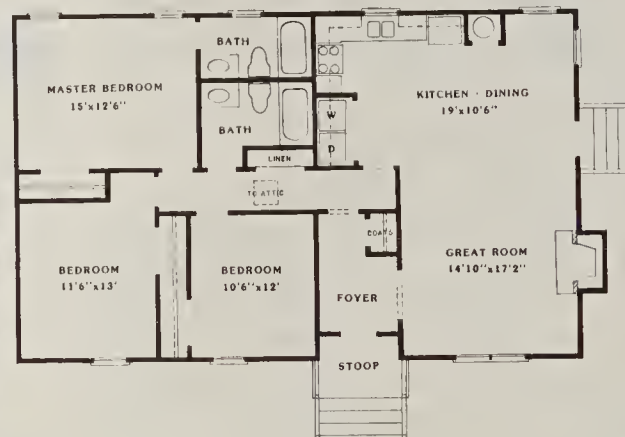
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Feature

"Land of beautiful women"

Albemarle country

Text and photos by
Michael E.C. Gery
Associate Editor

On Oct. 25, 1774, the proper ladies of Edenton staged the first women's political protest in the American colonies.

Abigail Charlton, Lydia Bonner, Grace Clayton, Elizabeth Vail and others, 51 women altogether. There were 11 other Elizabeths, seven Sarahs, five Annes. Penelope Barker, wife of a prominent local politician, organized the group.

The women signed a resolution supporting a boycott of imported tea and cloth, because of British taxes on such items.

In London, the women's resolution was called, "the Edenton Tea Party." It occurred less than a year after the dumping of tea in the harbor at the more rowdy Boston Tea Party.

Women figure very forcefully in the heritage and contemporary life of the Albemarle region of North Carolina.

The Indian word "Perquimans," which identifies a county, river and community in this northeastern North Carolina area, is said to mean "land of beautiful women."

John Lawson, the English traveler and writer, in the early 1700s described the young men here as "bashful and hard to get to know," and the older men as "rough pioneers," while "the women were remarkable and made cloth from their own cotton and flax."

Sarah Decrow, first postmaster of Hertford, is believed to be the first female postmaster in the U.S. after adoption of the federal constitution.

More recently, the area helped elect a woman to represent the First District in the U.S. House of Representatives after the district boundaries were redrawn to cover much of the Albemarle. She is Eva Clayton of Warren County,

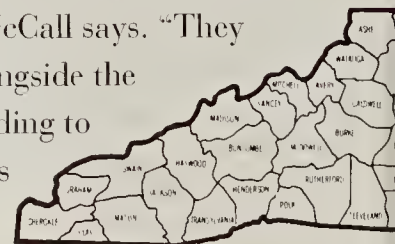
president of the freshman class in the 103rd Congress.

Two women run The Chowan Herald, a 59-year-old weekly newspaper published in Edenton. One of them is Marguerite McCall, who has been associate editor of the Herald for four years. Earlier, she spent nine years as education coordinator for Historic Edenton.

"The 17th century women were very much like the 20th century women," McCall says. "They worked alongside the men, according to the business records.

They had businesses in their names.

Their husbands were often in difficulty with British oppression, so the women would run things themselves."



*Chowan, Perquimans,
Pasquotank and Camden
counties.*

Marguerite McCall has portrayed the independent-minded Penelope Barker in living history interpretations of colonial Edenton. "Sometimes I almost feel I *am* Penelope Barker," she says.

Maybe she felt that way in January when she attended a Presidential Inauguration ball in Washington wearing her Penelope Barker gown.

She has also portrayed Ann Marwood Durant. Ann Durant, the first known female attorney in North Carolina, appeared before the colonial council in Perquimans in 1673. She was Marguerite McCall's seventh great-grandmother.

"This has been an independent area from the beginning," says McCall.

She attributes that to invitations the English Lords Proprietors gave to anyone willing to settle here in the late 1600s and early 1700s.

"Regardless of religion or race or background," she says emphatically, "it was a very homogenous settlement."

"Later, women were placed on a pedestal," McCall says, referring to the generation before the Civil War when plantations and shipping businesses thrived.

The Civil War deflated the society. Shipping had shifted toward Eliza-

What has developed in the last century, it appears, is an area concerned about its reputation, grace and appearance. Yet it seems not to aspire to be another Williamsburg. Its character might be described as massertive, perhaps even feminine. It is still a land of beautiful women.

Edenton has been called "the South's prettiest town." The streets and waterfronts in Hertford and Edenton have elegant houses and gardens. The countryside is rich in family farms, haunting swampland and rivers flowing to the Albemarle Sound.

A limerick repeated in these parts is about one fiercely independent woman. It is not only faithful to the historically liberated females of the area, but also gives the correct pronunciation of "Chowan" County:

*"There once was a woman
from Chowan,
Who went out one day
with no clothes on.
When stopped by police,
She said, 'Oh, mister, please.
It's too hot to put
anything mo' on!"*

Rural Albemarle today

Men certainly made their own marks on the Albemarle. The region was named for the first duke of Albemarle, a celebrated English military officer of the mid-1600s. Three Chowan County men signed the Declaration of Independence and another led North Carolina's ratification of the Constitution. Men built the magnificent buildings, and they were the captains of industry, agriculture, commerce, government and religion.

Perhaps the region's most famous resident of modern times is baseball's

Hall of Fame pitcher Jimmy "Catfish" Hunter, who is as proud to be a farmer in his boyhood stomping grounds as Perquimans County is to claim him.

Growing and processing peanuts, corn, cotton, soybeans, sweet potatoes and lumber is the leading industry here. But clothing manufacturing ("making cloth from their own cotton and flax") is big, too. Tourism, another business involving a lot of women, is perhaps the fastest growing industry.

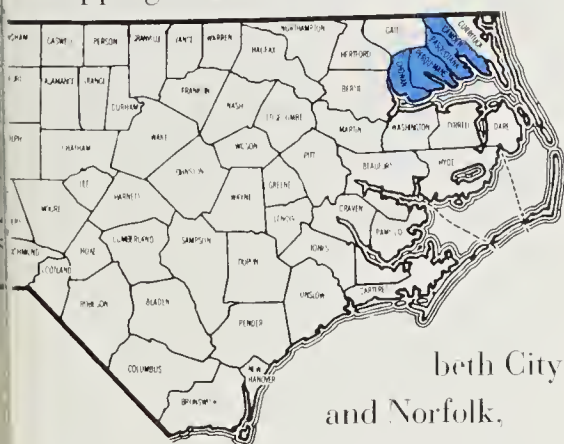
Tourism literature describes the area as the cradle of North Carolina's civilization. And it conveys the message that these people have carefully preserved the local style. Many of the old buildings and farms are maintained as solidly as they have been for generations. People who have moved here lately say they like it because it's a pretty, quiet, slow and friendly place.

"People here are courteous and helpful," Marguerite McCall says. "It's not put on, either. It's the way people have been raised here."

On Durauts Neck, you can feel that warmth if you meet Nancy Dawson Rascoe, one of the beautiful women of Perquimans.

She recently restored her family's "1812 Swampside" plantation house, which she runs as an inn and farm with her husband, Peter. She tells of her early 19th century grandfather, one of the first planters to free his slaves, and of succeeding Fletchers, Skinners and Nixons who farmed the place. The "1812" is a big, comfortable inn with views, period furnishings and a river dock—a perfect example of the heritage of the Albemarle transplanted to the 1990s

continued on page 11



both City
and Norfolk,
made convenient

by the Dismal Swamp Canal. People began leaving the area.



From left: 1767 courthouse, Barker House and Bererly Hall, all in Edenton. They are on the National Register of Historic Places.



continued from page 11

You can encounter more Albemarle graciousness in the community of Winfall, just outside Hertford, if you chat with Dorris White manager of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation. She began with Albemarle EMC in 1946, when the cooperative was so young it had erected only one pole. Dorris White has watched this area develop since then, and she is well known and respected in rural Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank and Camden counties served by the EMC.

Since 1980, the population of the four counties has grown by seven percent to 61,000. A quarter of the population lives in the region's largest city, Elizabeth City.

Growth was slow here for many years, White says. The agricultural economy has a way of plodding along. Dorris White should know; she lives on a farm herself. She says farms have grown bigger and more mechanized to stay viable.

In the countryside, abandoned tenant farm houses and sheds are overcome by trees and vines. But nearby there is usually a newer, brick house. And set solidly in peaceful groves of shade trees are the country churches, the Baptist, the Pentecostal Holiness, the AME Zion.

But Dorris White and the EMC have seen advances in farming and other industry. In the late 1980s,



Albemarle EMC helped obtain a loan for the Watermark Association of Artisans, a cooperative venture in Camden initiated by local woman which has marketed its crafts nationwide.

There has been movement in the homebuilding, recreation and tourist businesses, too. The state is expanding Highway 17 to four lanes and has almost completed the second section of a twin-span bridge over the Perquimans. Around South Mills, in Camden County, communities near Virginia's tidewater area are growing.

The new state Welcome Center on Highway 17—the only one in the nation to welcome travelers by boat—was a project promoted by the EMC, especially longtime board member James A. Whitelhurst.

New development is most noticeable along the waterfront areas.

The Holiday Island development began on Harveys Neck in the early 1970s and is now a community of modest homes, canal docks and campsites. There are 400 year-round residents. The security guard at its gatehouse will direct you to "the boss lady."

She is Jo Braswell, an affable retiree who sails and windsurfs on the sound. She says Holiday Island residents have a lot in common with one another and dutifully

serve on their own council, fire department and recreation associations.

Attractions of the Albemarle

- **Museum of the Albemarle.** Highway 17 South, Elizabeth City. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday, 2-5 p.m. (919) 335-1453.
- **Newbold-White House.** State Road 1336, near Hertford. Oldest house (c. 1685) in North Carolina. Colonial meeting place and court. Open March 1-Dec. 22, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (919) 426-7567.
- **Historic Edenton.** Open to the public are St. Paul's Church (c. 1736), Cupola House (c. 1758), Barker House (c. 1782), Chowan County Courthouse (1767), and James Iredell House (c. 1773). A walking tour of other houses and historic sites leaves from the new Visitor Center. (919) 482-2637.
- **Hertford.** Walking tour of historic buildings begins at the municipal office. (919) 426-5657.
- **Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce.** Hertford. (919) 426-5657.
- **Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce.** Elizabeth City. (919) 335-4365.

She describes Dorris White as "a wonderful lady" as she praises the EMC's recent investment in individual metering of the 660 campsites.

Adjacent to Holiday Island is Albe-marle Plantation, the area's most promising residential development, according to local homebuilders. A grand clubhouse overlooks the Albe-marle Sound and the golf course's 18th fairway. Two big houses are under construction. There are 500 building lots and plans for 100 condominiums.

Tragedy, too

The area has weathered emotional upheaval, too. Most recently, charges of depravity at an Edenton day care center have gripped and distressed people throughout the entire region.

The director of the Little Rascals

center, Robert F. Kelly Jr., whose wife is a local woman, was found guilty in April 1992 on 99 of 100 counts of child abuse after a nine-month trial. He is serving 12 consecutive life sentences in jail. The trial was held 80 miles away, but news was constant and widely broadcast. In January, an employee was found guilty of related charges after a trial in Perquimans County. Five other defendants, including Mrs. Kelly, await trial.

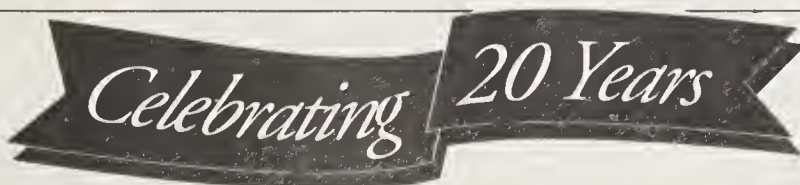
The tragedy has wrenched the local communities. Nearly everyone living in the area knows someone connected to the case. As testimony is reported, citizens feel they are turning themselves inside out, especially with children so central to the case.

Marguerite McCall, who has covered the trial for The Chowan Herald, says "It has been very difficult

dealing with that. There have been many derogatory things said, comparing this to a Salem witch trial, by people who simply don't know the facts. It is very tragic. But this is what we have the courts for."

The region has a longer experience with courts than any other in North Carolina. A general court was held in Pasquotank County in 1670. The state's first courthouse was built in Edenton in 1718, and the town was the state's first capital. Today Chowan County courthouse, built in 1767, is a National Historic Landmark.

"This area has been through so many incidents, since its beginnings," McCall says. "You look back into the documents here, the court records, and you see that human beings are never perfect. People here know how to go on with their lives."



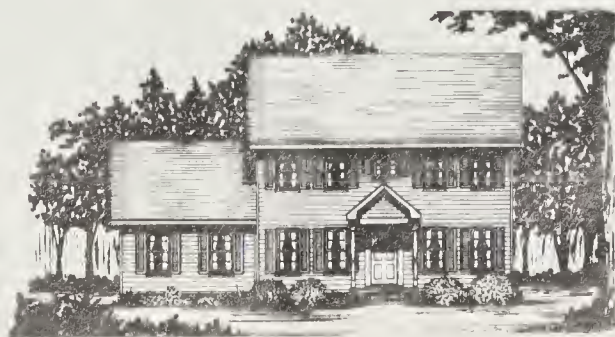
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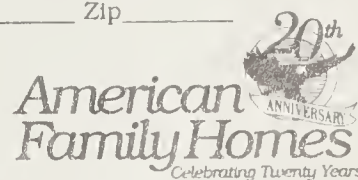
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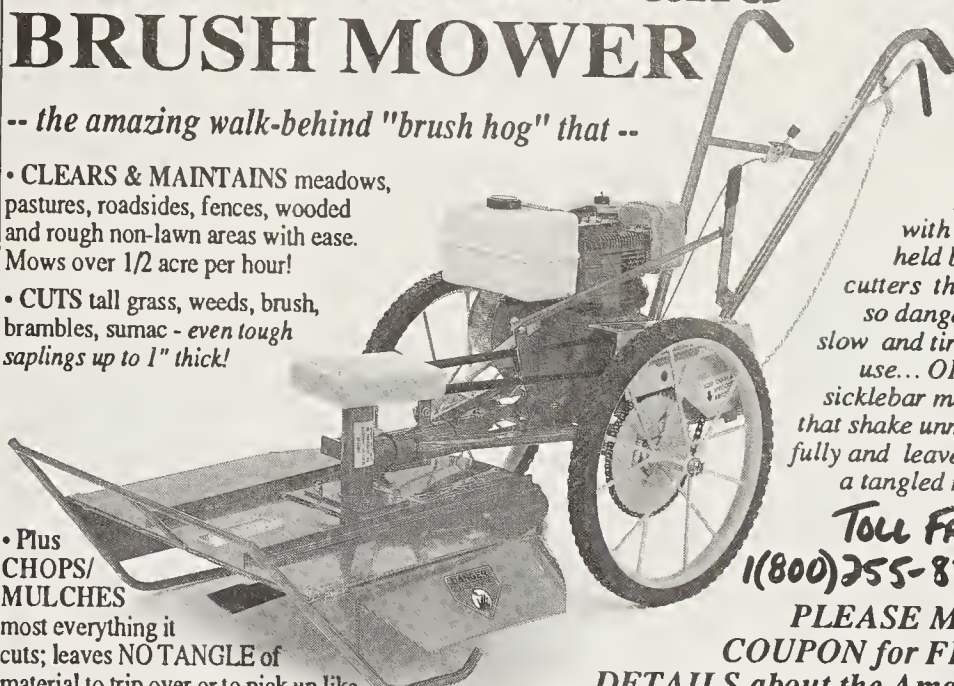
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Tour New Bern homes and gardens April 2-3

Several historic homes and private gardens will be featured on New Bern's 1993 Spring Historic Homes and Garden Tour April 2 and 3.

The oldest home on the tour will be the Georgian style Hawks House, circa 1760-1769. The most recent home will be the David S. Congdon House, which was built in 1908.

The tour, which will also include the formal gardens of Tryon Palace, is sponsored by the New Bern Historical Society and the New Bern Preservation Foundation.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 on the weekend of the tour.

For tickets or more information, write or call New Bern Historic Homes and Garden Tour, P.O. Box 207, New Bern, N.C. 28563. Phone: (919) 638-8558 or 633-6448.

USS Tisdale group plans 50th reunion

A 50th reunion of the USS Tisdale (DE-33) crew is scheduled for Oct. 7 to 9 in Sacramento, Cal. Those interested should contact Frank F. Warren, 8166 Lobata St., Citrus Heights, Cal. 95610. Phone: (916) 722-4188.

College hosts 6th Merle Watson Festival

The 6th annual Merle Watson Memorial Festival is scheduled for April 29 through May 2 at Wilkes Community College Gardens in Wilkesboro.

The seven stages are expected to accommodate more than three dozen musical acts, including Doc Watson, Emmy Lou Harris, Mary Chapin Carpenter, John

Hartford, the Tony Rice Unit and others.

New events this year include a Friday night dance, storytelling, Heritage Craftsmen, free shuttle service, indoor dance instruction, and a Sunday morning gospel sing.

Also, there will be master classes, workshops, Heritage Arts classes, and activities for all family members.

Proceeds of the festival benefit the Eddy Merle Watson Memorial Garden for the Senses.

"Early Bird" tickets must be ordered by March 22. One-day and regular three- or four-day tickets go on sale March 23.

For information, contact the Merle Watson Festival, P.O. Box 120, Wilkesboro, N.C. 28697. Phone: (800)

343-7857 or (919) 651-8666.

Museum of Life and Sciences opens wing

The North Carolina Museum of Life and Sciences in Durham will celebrate the opening of its new science/technology exhibits wing April 3 and 4.

The new wing, which doubles the facility's floor space, will expand science education resources for educators and school children.

New exhibits include Aerospace, which will help explain the principles of flight and life in space; Data Earth, which will help broaden understanding of physics and its technological applications; Life's Devices, which will examine how animals function in bio-

3-day music festival tunes up in Beaufort

The fifth annual Beaufort-by-the-Sea Music Festival will be held April 23-25 at several locations in the coastal Carteret County town.

Performers will include a Greenville-based steel drum band, Panama Steel, as well as the Dick Cumberland Trio jazz band, and local ensembles Main Street, Lookout and 40 West. Music will range from classical to country.

Entertainment will begin in the afternoon and continue into the night. Friday and Saturday night dancing will take place in the Beaufort Square Shopping Center.

Civic groups will offer barbecue and clam chowder. The festival is free of charge.

For more information, contact the Beaufort Business and Professional Association, Box 56, Beaufort, N.C. 28516. Phone: (919) 728-5225.



Greenville's Panama Steel will play at Beaufort.

mechanical terms; and Scientifica, a physical sciences discovery room geared to adolescents.

The museum, located at +33 Murray Ave., north of I-85 at the Duke Street exit in Durham, will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information, contact Margaret Martin, P.O. Box 15190, Durham, N.C. 27704. Phone: (919) 220-5429.

Liberty Antiques Festival expects 140 exhibitors

More than 140 exhibitors from 12 states are expected at the Liberty Antiques Festival April 16 and 17.

The festival is held twice a year at the Hampton Pike Farms two miles south of Liberty.

Only antiques and collectibles are included in the show, although another popular attraction is the food served by local churches.

Parking is available at the site for \$2 per day.

For more information, contact Vito Sico, P.O. Box 939, Liberty, N.C. 27298. Phone: (919) 622-3040.

Doll show and sale in Roanoke Rapids

The Roanoke Valley Doll Club's annual doll show and sale is scheduled for April 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Roanoke Rapids.

For more information, contact Joan Amundsen, P.O. Box 387, Seaboard, N.C. 27867. Phone: (919) 589-6371.

Club offers reprinted edition of Watauga County history

The Kiwanis Club of Boone is sponsoring the sale of a book called, "A History of Watauga County North Carolina with Sketches of Prominent Families," by John Preston Arthur.

This volume is a reprint of a book written around 1912, and provides a detailed portrait of Watauga County's formative years. The book contains vast genealogical information about early Watauga families, including the

continued on page 18

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continued from page 17

ancestors of David Crockett, Sam Houston, John C. Calhoun, "Stonewall" Jackson and Abraham Lincoln. Also included are listings of church members, teachers and merchants, as well as senators and representatives.

The cost is \$21.95, plus \$2 for shipping and handling. Proceeds from the sale of the book will be used for community projects.

For your copy, contact Al Hurst at (704) 262-1422, or write Kiwanis Club of Boone, P.O. Box 87, Boone, N.C. 28607.

Onslow County hosts kite festival

Anyone may go fly a kite at the Onslow County Museum Kite Festival April 17 and 18.

The festival opens with an all-day Family Kite Building workshop at the Richlands Community Building. The second day is set aside for kite flying and competition at Public Beach Access #4 in North Topsail Shores.

There is no charge for either day.

For information, contact the Onslow County Museum at P.O. Box 384, Richlands, N.C. 28574. Phone: (919) 324-5008.

Natural science festival to be held in Raleigh

Art and science will mix on April 24 at a special afternoon event in Durant Nature Park, Raleigh.

Hosted by the Friends of the North Carolina State

Museum of Natural Sciences and the Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department, the Down & Dirty Festival will treat all family members to entertainment, exhibits and lessons in natural science from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To register, contact the Friends at P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Phone: (919) 733-7450.

In May, the Friends will celebrate North Carolina Museums Week and International Museum Day with games, demonstrations and live animals at the museum on Bicentennial Plaza in downtown Raleigh. Museum Day events, which will be free of charge, are set for May 18 from 5 to 8 p.m.

African-American art exhibited in Statesville

The Arts and Science Center of Statesville will present selections from the John M. Howard Memorial collection of African-American art March 28-April 25. The collection is a major part of the permanent collection of the Arts & Science Center of Southeast Arkansas.

The collection features 50 works that are representative of several major African-American artists, including North Carolina native Romane Bearden.

The center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Rita Rhodes, 1335 Museum Rd., Statesville, N.C. 28677. Phone: (704) 873-4734.

Tryon Palace Gardener's Sunday is April 4

The 21st Annual Tryon Palace Gardeners Sunday

Wall installation completed for National Guard

A depiction of a National Guardsman mobilizing for duty has been installed at the Claude T. Bowers National Guard Military Center in Raleigh. Executed by Silas Kopf, the marquetry was commissioned through the N.C. Arts Council's Art Works for State Buildings program.

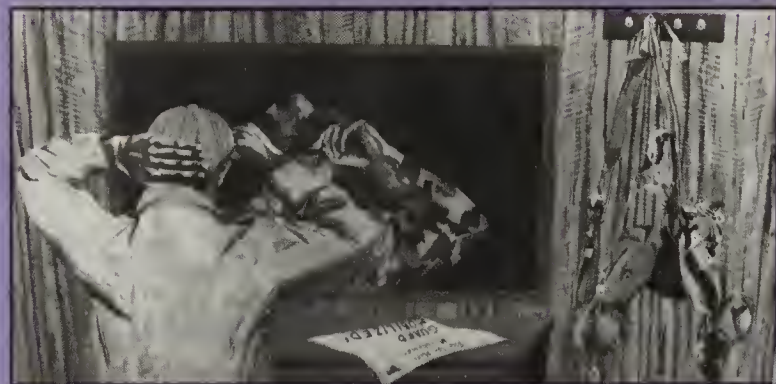
Measuring 36-by-72-by-2 inches, the two-dimensional work shows a guardsman gazing into a mirror as he fixes his cap. The subject's back (facing the viewer) is that of a civilian but his frontal image (reflected in the mirror) depicts a soldier on active duty.

Kopf used over 30 different types of wood for this work, including walnut, ebony, mahogany and rosewood.

N.C. National Guard Major General Nathaniel Robb said, "I believe that this artwork, in this unique medium, captures the image of civilians prepared to bear arms and sacrifice even their lives to defend our nation."

The public can see the marquetry during the National Guard Military Center's regular hours.

For further information, contact the Visual Arts Section, N.C. Arts Council, Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2807. Phone: (919) 733-2111.



Marquetry art by Silas Kopf is composed of 30 types of wood.

is slated for April 4 at Tryon Palace in New Bern.

The gardens and grounds of Tryon Palace filled with thousands of colorful spring tulips will be open to the public at no charge.

Free guided tours of the gardens will be offered by the Tryon Palace horticultural staff on Gardeners Sunday, with tours scheduled to leave the Visitor Center every hour on the hour between 1 and 4 p.m. Tours will last about one hour each, and no reservations are necessary.

Interior tours will be offered at regular fees.

For more information,

contact Maria L. Muniz at P.O. Box 1007, New Bern, N.C. 28563. Phone: (919) 638-1560.

Ford's Fancy Fruits had "Best Gourmet Display"

A Raleigh-based food store placed first among more than 100 gourmet shops in the state competing in the "Best of North Carolina Gourmet Display Contest" sponsored by the N.C. Department of Agriculture.

Ford's Fancy Fruits, located at the State Farmer's Market in Raleigh, won the competition and a \$350 prize.

Tinker's Trade of Raleigh placed second, and Forge Mountain Country Store of Flat Rock placed third.

Judges considered how each displayed and promoted North Carolina products.

The Department of Agriculture assists gourmet and specialty stores in locating suitable North Carolina products. The department also helps place such products in such stores, restaurants and grocery stores.

Museum of the Albemarle marks Elizabeth City's 200th

Elizabeth City's bicentennial is celebrated at the Museum of the Albemarle in a lobby exhibit called "Elizabeth City: 200 Years Along the Pasquotank."

In 1793, the North Carolina General Assembly established a "Town at the Narrows of the Pasquotank River." The town was to be established at the southern end of the Dismal Swamp Canal, whose construction began the same year.

Originally called Redding, the name of the town was changed to Elizabeth in 1794 and to Elizabeth City in 1801.

Among the items in the exhibit are copies of early documents, photographs, an 1893 map and a collection of postcards. The postcards show scenes of Elizabeth City in the period 1900-1956. There is also a photo dated about 1950 of a bus from the Elizabeth City Bus Line and a token used on buses.

The exhibit will be on display through June. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Museum of the Albemarle, 1116 U.S. Highway 17 South, Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909. Phone: (919) 335-1453.



Postcard of Albemarle Hospital (Elizabeth City, about 1915).



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Fields of tulips in the “heavenly land”

One of the most colorful spring scenes anywhere in North Carolina appears in a quiet farming community whose name means “heavenly land.”

It's on a Beaufort County back road where fields open in a splash of color, like a scene from a child's book of paintings.

The community is Terra Ceia. The translation “heavenly land” also is read as “the end of the rainbow.”

The fields show daffodils in early spring. Then come acres of tulips. Later, the tall and lovely gladiolas and canna lilies.

The community celebrates the annual spring show and the area's heritage with a Dutch Festival Day, which is scheduled this year for Saturday, April 17.

In the 1920s and 1930s, families from Holland settled in this coastal plain area. They found the soil receptive for raising tulips, which have long been dear to the Dutch. Terra Ceia families soon engaged in tulip farming on a scale similar to that seen in Holland.

The Terra Ceia Flower Farm, in the Van Staalduin family for 40 years, is considered the largest tulip farm in the eastern United States.

One of the festival organizers,

Nancy De Hoog, says, “Terra Ceia feels the key to the festival's success is its authenticity. Everything from food to costumes to entertainment is 100 percent Dutch.”

The festival is coordinated by the interdenominational Terra Ceia Christian School. The school's role in the festival is in keeping with the strong religious heritage of Terra Ceia, stemming from the devout Dutch Reformed settlers. This year, school children will see blooms of hundreds of tulips they planted for the festival.

From 1987 to 1990, the Beaufort County seat of Washington hosted a Tulip Festival. The Dutch Festival Day in Terra Ceia, now in its third year, is a revival of that event. Last year's attendance was estimated at between 4,000 and 5,000 people, De Hoog says.

The 1993 festival includes a tour of the Van Staalduin flower farm and a magnificent spread of Dutch food, games and music.

Activities are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.—rain or shine. Food will be served from the outset and will include the vegetable beef soup *Groentensoep*, the dried pea and ham soup *Erwtensoep*, rolls with Lyden and Gouda cheese, and a sausage and pastry delight called *Saucyses*. One of the favorites to be served is *Oliebollen*, a deep-fried pastry with raisins and powdered sugar. Books featuring recipes for



A group from Terra Ceia Christian School in costume at the 1992 Dutch Festival Day.

Irene Vander Weit photo

such dishes will be available for sale.

Costumed dancers will perform *Klompen* dancing. An audio-visual presentation featuring Terra Ceia and Holland will be shown throughout the day. And there will be a variety of children's games.

Food booths will sell Dutch cheeses, soup mixes, *Oliebollen* mix, peppermints and other items. Delftware will be offered, too. It is a style of earthenware developed in South Holland, including teapots and sets, plates, tiles, lamps and jewelry.

Terra Ceia is located between Washington and Plymouth and can be reached from Highways 32 or 264. Most of Terra Ceia is served by Tideland EMC, Pantego.

For more information, call Nancy De Hoog at (919) 964-4048.

Cameron Presbyterian Church offers "Cherished Recipes"

Members of Cameron Presbyterian Church in Cameron have published a collection of their favorite recipes in a volume titled, "Our Cherished Recipes."

The 116-page, indexed cookbook contains 400 recipes, including a special section called, "The Heritage Collection," which features favorite family recipes which have been passed down through the years.

The book also includes kitchen hints, a calorie counter and a section of coupons for food products.

To order a copy of the cookbook, send \$6.50 plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling to Betty Reitzel, Cameron Presbyterian Church, Cameron, N.C. 28326.

Reprinted here is a recipe for baked bananas and rum sauce and a "Heritage Collection" recipe for peach pickles, circa 1850.

Baked Bananas and Rum Sauce

6 bananas
lemon juice
2 egg yolks
4 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons California sherry
1 jigger rum
2 egg whites
1 cup whipped cream
grated rind of 2 lemons and 1 orange

Peel bananas and cut in half lengthwise. Arrange in buttered casserole and squeeze lemon juice over them. Let stand for 30 minutes. Cover with sauce. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes.

Sauce: Beat egg yolks. Add sugar and beat again. Add sherry, rum, and 2 stiffly beaten egg whites. Fold in whipped cream and grated rind of lemon and orange.

—Martha Cox

(Circa 1850)

3 gallons peaches
1 gallon apple vinegar
6 pounds sugar
1 tablespoon cinnamon
1 tablespoon mace
2 tablespoons nutmeg
1 tablespoon cloves

Tie cinnamon, mace, nutmeg and cloves together in a muslin bag. Scald small cling stone peaches, slip skins off and put into a 3-gallon crock.

Boil vinegar and sugar with the sack of spices. Pour this over peaches and let stand for a day. Boil liquid and peaches again. Seal in clean, hot jars.

No company dinner in Cameron was ever complete without a cut glass bowl of sweet-spicy pickled peaches!

—Mrs. Hector Turner (Kate)
submitted by great granddaughter,
Jean Hillmer

1993 EMC Annual Meetings Calendar



DATE	EMC	TIME	LOCATION
March			
20	Edgecombe-Martin County, Tarboro	Registration: Noon Business Meeting: 2:00 p.m.	Headquarters Building, Hwy. 33, Tarboro
25	South River, Dunn	Registration: 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville
26	Jones-Onslow, Jacksonville	Registration: 5:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	American Legion Building, Onslow County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville
26	Wake, Wake Forest	Registration 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	Wake Forest-Rolesville High School, Wake Forest

Rural Electric News Service

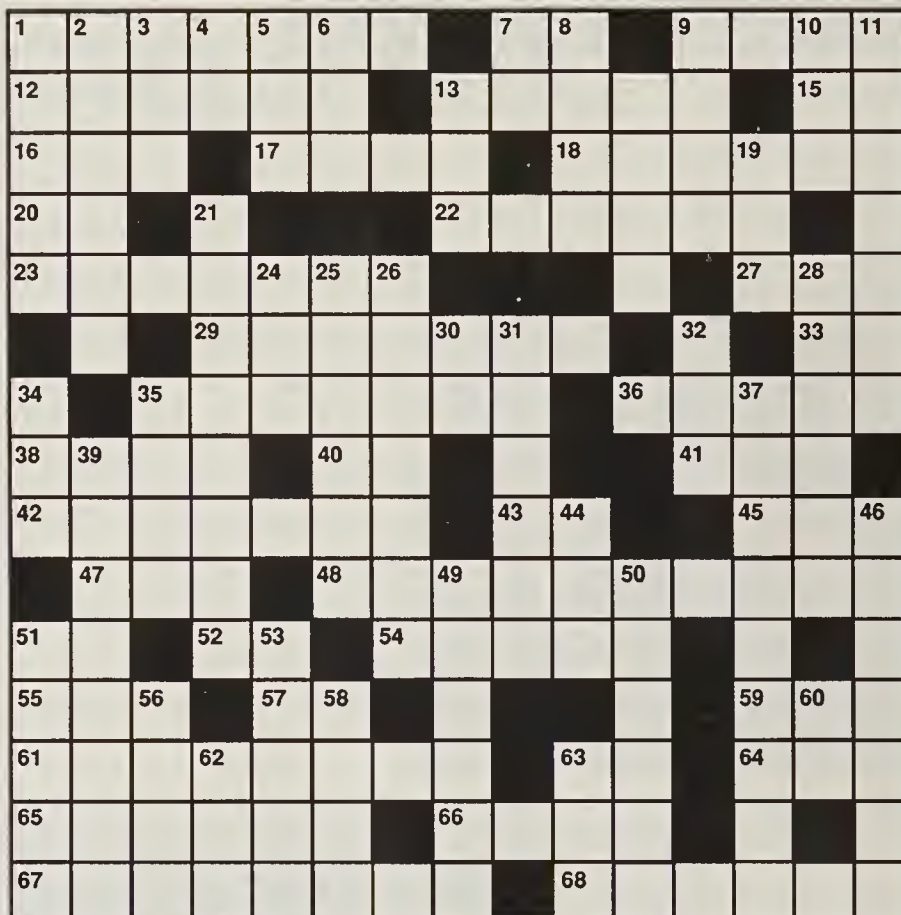
CROSSWIRES

By Michael Hedges

*Solution on
page 23.*

ACROSS

1. Aural effect, receding sound
7. Before noon
9. Close tight
12. Listing of mistakes
13. Baked earth
15. Keystone state, abbrev.
16. Chinese leader
17. Small drink
18. Tormenter or tantalizer
20. Working extra
22. Religious songs
23. Panamanian export to U.S.
27. One of ten to be socked
29. Southeast Asia
33. Registered caregiver, abbrev.
35. One who encloses in glass
36. Lives in Borneo
38. Boat
40. Exclamation
41. Speckle
42. Knight
43. Where you go to be stitched, abbrev.
45. Our father
47. Some are vampires
48. Like a jellyfish
51. Don't stop
52. Score, abbrev.
54. Change
55. Deteriorate
57. Latin for that is.
59. Cheer, exclamation



61. Learned
63. Not off
64. Writing instrument
65. Lack of coloring
66. Need to keep them in the water
67. Late afternoon dance
68. Early Stephen King heroine

DOWN

1. Evil spirit
2. Rhetorician
3. Does it for money, abbrev.
4. Appalachian patriarch
5. British corporation, abbrev.

6. Aural orifice
7. Printed persuader, abbrev.
8. Dodger pinch hitting expert, last name
9. Where it is sewn
10. Large primate
11. Theft
13. Cranks up the music, abbrev.
14. Busted in Philly
19. Fast plane, abbrev.
21. Measure of electricity
24. Some live to do it, all do it to live
25. Medieval architecture
26. Hot town in 1864
28. Accomplished talker
30. Same as 51 across
31. Silver
32. Not a nice guy
34. Cleopatra's nemesis
35. Gaucho weapon
37. One who sets newspaper type
39. Slang, whole collection
44. Fish eggs
46. Make crazy
49. Female quadruped, two words
50. The news, in Spanish
51. Large, mighty
53. Goddess of the hunt
56. Big and brass
58. Fields where English boys play
60. Poet's initials, lowercase
62. Spanish hero. E! ---.
63. Sea monster, symbol in Blake's poetry

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The energy-efficient dishwasher

Back in 1932, an electric appliance was introduced that could rinse, wash and dry dishes. This machine did not stop with dishes.

It could also wash and iron clothes, polish silverware and sharpen cutlery, beat eggs and whip cream, extract fruit juices, grind and chop meats, serve as a stove and stir foods while cooking, toast bread, knead dough, shake cocktails, dry hair and serve as an exerciser, its manufacturer claimed. When not in use, this electric-powered wonder machine could be folded up and pushed under the sink. Despite all those claims, sales were not spectacular.

There were some other obstacles to overcome before dishwashers would become practical. The lack of adequate hot water supplies in most homes and the absence of suitable dishwashing detergents made dishwashers impractical until after World War II. It wasn't until the 1960s that dishwasher sales began to take off.

Today, builders and realtors say the dishwasher is one of the most popular of all selling features. Even so, a recent survey of rural electric families reports there are dishwashers in less than half their homes.

If you're in the market for a new dishwasher and energy efficiency is a feature you're looking for, here are some things to consider:

1. **Water usage.** How much water does each model use? Since 80 percent of the energy a dishwasher uses goes to heating water, it is wise to know how much water each model uses during the various cycles. By reading the literature or checking with the salesperson, you'll find most dishwashers use between 8 and 14 gallons of water per load.

2. **Booster heater.** Some dishwashers come with built-in heaters to boost water temperature to 140-146 degrees, the temperature recommended by most manufacturers. With a booster heater, you can turn down the thermostat on your water heater, significantly reducing your water heater cost. Each 10-degree reduction reduces your water heater's energy consumption by 3 to 5 percent.

3. **Energy-saving wash cycles.** Most dishwashers offer a choice in cycles ranging from light wash to the pots and pans cycle. The lighter cycles use less water. Energy-saving cycles can save you \$5 to \$15 per year.

4. **No-heat dry cycle.** Normally, a heating element is used to dry dishes during the dry cycle. Most new dishwashers offer a no-heat dry cycle. At the end of the rinse cycle, room air is circulated through the dishwasher by fans.

EnergyGuide labels must be posted on all new dishwashers sold. This rating is based on using the normal setting. If you're considering a model with setting options you don't regularly use, your energy use could vary substantially.

Remember, there are two sizes of dishwashers: normal capacity and compact. Compact sizes may cost less to run through the cycle, but they might not save you money if they can't accommodate all your dirty dishes.

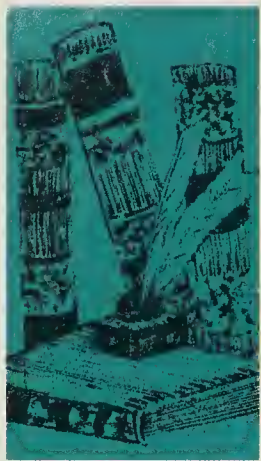
To maximize your energy savings:

- Choose the energy saving cycle.
- Use the no-heat air-dry feature whenever possible.
- Don't pre-rinse your dishes before loading in the dishwasher. Today's models are built to clean your dishes without rinsing. If you must rinse, use cold water.
- Run only full loads.

Solution to Crosswires on page 22

D	O	P	P	L	E	R		A	M		S	E	A	L
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Book Reviews



"The Lost Boy" and "In Memory of Junior"

The Lost Boy

By Thomas Wolfe.

UNC Press, Chapel Hill, 1992.

81 pages, hardcover, \$16.50.

This novella by the legendary North Carolina writer Thomas Wolfe, never before published in its entirety, focuses on the author's brother, Grover Cleveland Wolfe, and the effect his death had on his family when he died at age 12.

The semi-autobiographical book retains the Gant family from Wolfe's first novel, "Look Homeward Angel" and tells of the author's lifelong search for the brilliant brother he scarcely knew. It has been described as a "hauntingly beautiful and mysterious account of his own search."

Edited by Dr. James Clark of Raleigh, who teaches English at N.C. State University, the novella is a long-lost manuscript recently published by University of North Carolina Press. Dr. Clark, who is president of the Thomas Wolfe Society, gleaned the material for the book from a 1937 typescript housed in the William B. Wisdom collection of Thomas Wolfe papers at Harvard University's Houghton Library.

In his introduction, Dr. Clark writes that "The Lost Boy" is a "finely crafted realization of the author's genius for little books."

Wolfe's imagery and insightful prose create a contemplative Grover. The dark-haired, dark-eyed boy moved easily around the town square, visiting its shops. His favorite was the candy shop, where he lost his innocent trusting in others as he learned that injustice exists.

Grover is recalled from the perspectives of four members of his family, who describe events during a period in 1904. He rode the train with his mother, brothers and sisters to attend the St. Louis World's Fair.

Mrs. Gant, unabashedly partial to her eldest son, often repeated the story of how the quiet, introspective Grover showed maturity and judgment as he stood up to the black family retainer accompanying them on the train. She recalls each detail with clarity, demonstrating anew that no family ever recovers from the loss of a child.

Sister Helen also remembers

Grover's maturity when she sees a faded photograph of the Gant children.

During the fateful summer, Grover worked at the fair and often treated his brothers and sisters to the midway and ice cream.

Midway sounds, sights and smells bring back Helen's poignant memories of her younger brother.

Finally there is the author's own trek to St. Louis to retrace his childhood steps of 30 years earlier. He strains to remember



Grover Cleveland Wolfe (Courtesy Pack Memorial Library, Asheville, N.C.)



Book jacket illustration by Ed Lindlof.

fuzzy details etched on a four-year-old's memory, and to recapture for himself some of the nostalgia of that summer.

He describes his bewildering search for the proper house and his reminiscences of the city—the street-car, the old board fence, the cool cellar.

When the house is finally located, he found it “just the same” except for “absence, absence.” Finally comes the realization that, “I had it back ... my four years that was so short to measure ... so endless to remember.

“And so, finding all, I knew all had been lost,” he lamented. “My brother, the lost boy, was gone forever and would not return.”

The volume, which includes 10 illustrations by Ed Lindlof of Austin,

Texas, is available in bookstores or from the University of North Carolina Press. For toll-free credit card orders, call: (800) 848-6224.

—Peggy Howe

In Memory of Junior

By Clyde Edgerton.

Algonquin Press, Chapel Hill, 1992.
224 pages, hardcover, \$16.95.

Clyde Edgerton writes from his experience as an only child growing up as part of a large extended family in rural North Carolina.

He was beloved of his parents and grandparents—and of countless relatives, all of whom made sure he understood that he was related to them by blood and by tradition.

“In Memory of Junior” examines the Bales-McCord family, relatives of the family Edgerton wrote of in “The Floatplane Notebooks.”

Elderly Glenn and Laura Bales are facing a decision about their final resting places. Because this is Glenn’s second marriage, the whole family is focused on which one will go first and who will inherit the homeplace—Glenn’s two sons or Laura’s daughter.

Meanwhile, Glenn’s first wife’s brother, Grove McCord, finds himself facing death. He’s the black sheep of the family who left the small town of Summerlin years ago. Now, with the help of his nephews, Tate and Faison, and grand-nephew, Morgan, he makes his own arrangements to be buried there.

Many of the characters are typical of Edgerton’s work: eccentric and absurd, with opinions that may give the reader pause.

Aunt Bette offers this explanation

for why Morgan does not say, “Yes Ma’am: “If the government hadn’t started that integration, that boy might have been taught to say, ‘Yes ma’am.’ And if people hadn’t started landing on the moon it might be a good world now. When they started messing with the moon, and people’s habits and manners and likes and ‘personal’ dislikes and ‘personal’ preferences, and started mixing the races, they went too far.”

Uncle Grove, the primary eccentric in the family, has a few strange thoughts too. He is obsessed with being buried in the family graveyard in Summerlin, where his first love is buried.

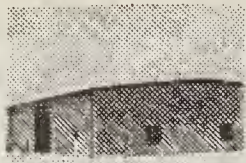
“She never left Summerlin,” he recalled, “and her ugly husband is probably still alive and kicking and he’ll probably get buried right beside her. If I get buried there, I’ll sneak over. You are history longer than you are fact.”

For Tate, modern ways can never measure up to those of other times: “Aunt Bette’s kitchen smelled like snuff, gas heat, oil cloth and apple pie. Marilyn (his wife) had us a big fancy kitchen with no table in it. She had a ‘work station.’ Marilyn’s kitchen was the first one in the family without a table since before Jesus.”

The family faces impending death while it is forced to go on with the business of living. In describing their struggle, Edgerton offers a telling portrait of a flawed and often silly extended family. However, the author depicts his characters so sketchily they never become three dimensional.

Edgerton’s fans will be delighted with his sense of the absurd on the subject of death but disappointed with the flatness of the characters.

—Larissa Trivett



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Coates

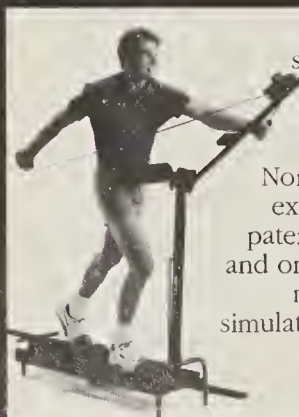
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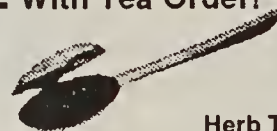
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.....
"The highest place that was practical to get to."

Going to work on top of Big Pisgah

By Michael E.C. Gery
Associate Editor

As engineering supervisor at the WLOS-TV tower on Big Pisgah mountain in Haywood County, Norman Harrill goes to lofty heights every day he's on the job.

His workplace is 5,742 feet high.

One of the benefits of the job is the spectacular view: looking west you gaze up the Pigeon River valley to the Great Smoky Mountains. It can make you tremble.

His routine ride to work can be exciting, too.

To get to the tower, Harrill and his three co-workers first must clamber up a rocky 3½-mile road in a four-wheel-drive truck. That drive takes almost a half hour. The truck moves grudgingly in its lowest gear, especially over the rocks, at no better than a 45-degree angle.

Tally Heatherly, a farmer in nearby Cruso who helps tend the road, calls the rocks "speed bumps."

Finally the truck can climb no far-

ther. But the TV tower is still 3,200 feet up the mountain.

At this point, Harrill starts the electric motor of his specially-designed cable car. The car is about the size of two phone booths. It's simply a wooden platform in a steel frame on railroad wheels pulled by a cable. Turn on the electricity, and a 30-horsepower motor at the tower pulls one cable car uphill and sends another down.

It's an 11-minute ride, sometimes straight up. Riding it, you feel as though you're in a lone car on a gigantic ferris wheel that just keeps rising. When you glance downward, your gut wrenches.

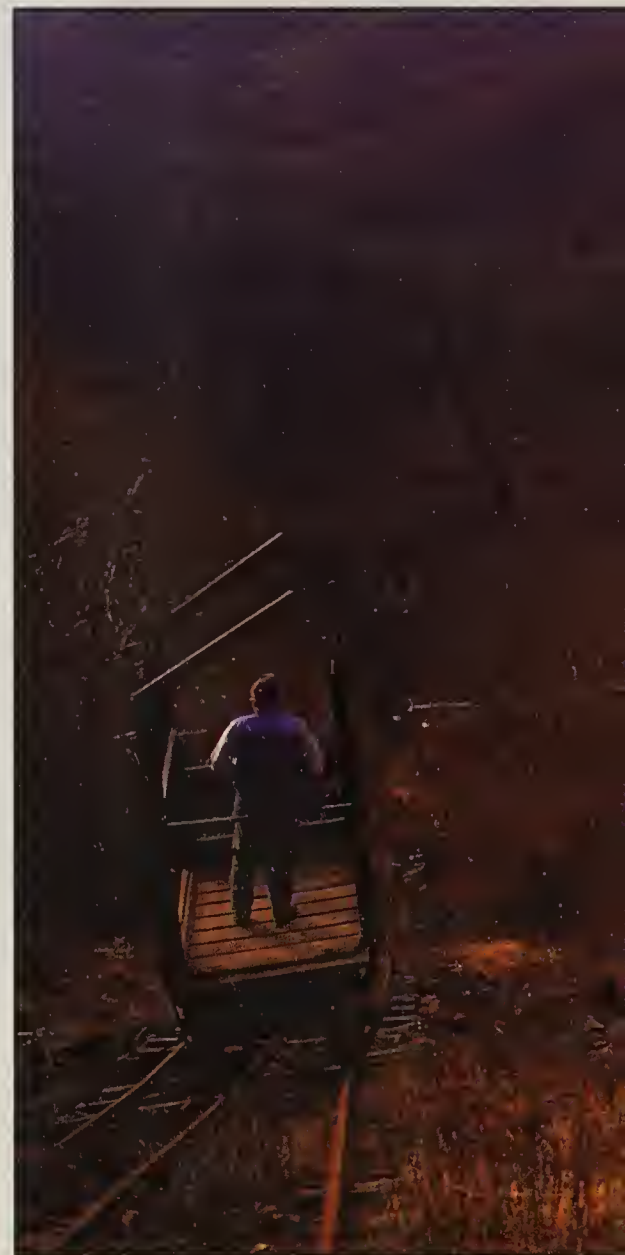
Harrill doesn't even hold on to the car's single handrail. He's ridden to and from work this way every day since 1958. And when the cable car or its railroad or its motor break down, Harrill

must fix it. He can hardly call a neighborhood repair shop and have someone come out to fix it for him.

On the way up, the cable car passes a mountain spring that pours into a small pond on a rock ledge. Someone recently put up an out-of-place real estate sign at the edge of the spring. It reads, "Lake Norman. Homesites for sale."

The WLOS-TV tower stands 350 feet high. Harrill says the Asheville-based TV station placed it here in the early 1950s "because it was the highest place that was practical to get to, if you call this practical."

At the foot of the tower is a three-story block structure housing the electronic equipment for two TV



Norman Harrill heads home.

stations, a radio station, the National Weather Service, and regional police and fire services. Harrill and his co-workers make sure all this equipment works.

"Every day there's something that needs work," he says.

The block building also houses a bunk room, a kitchen, a cat named Spots ("our mouser") and a massive diesel generator.

When five feet of snow plopped down on this mountain in May of 1992, Norman couldn't get down the mountain to go home. There was so much heavy snow on the track that the cable car derailed. No one would even think of trying to trudge up the hill to right the car.



Photos by Salstrand Studios, Raleigh

Norman Harrill

Harrill lived in the tower for three days and two nights. Two men worked two days to open the way up the mountainside to the tower.

It wasn't the first time he's camped out there. At least he's prepared for it: he's an experienced Boy Scout master who has helped 12 boys become Eagle Scouts.

"I've seen snow up here every

month of the year except August," he says. "Up here, we have winter and August. That's it."

Fortunately for WLOS-TV, Norman Harrill has a terrific sense of humor and takes it all in stride.

Haywood Electric Membership

Corporation, Waynesville, appreciates his attitude, too. The co-op supplies electric service to the Big Pisgah tower, as it does to many remote places in Haywood and Transylvania counties. Haywood EMC also maintains power lines to such places.

In case there is a power outage—like the one that occurred during the May 1992 blizzard—Harrill keeps the generator in top shape. It starts up in three seconds after an outage, and in another seven seconds it's putting out power, and the TV sets go on.

Mike Davis, the EMC's operations manager, isn't exaggerating when he says building and maintaining the electric poles and lines to serve the WLOS-TV tower is the most challenging job the co-op has ever faced.

"They are good people," Harrill says of the EMC linemen.

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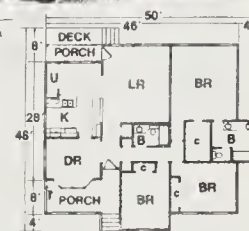
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Hank's Gardening Guide

by Hank Smith



The onset of spring awakens the plant world and the gardener's urge to plant.

As spring awakens the plant world, the urge to plant is exceeded only by the great variety of things available for planting.

As sanitation is an important part of garden maintenance—both for healthy plants and a neat appearance—remove any debris, dead and broken limbs, as well as thatch from the lawn before new growth starts. Divide perennials, if needed, and plant hardy vegetable and bedding plants.

Ready, set, go

Good gardening days in early spring sometimes are widely spaced—and it's exasperating to have to lose any of them because of unready tools.

Sometime soon, when you have an hour or two, look over tools and equipment to



fit them for use. If your trowel, spade, shovel or hoe are rusty, shine them by rubbing with kerosene and sand or steel wool.

Then sharpen cutting edges with a few swipes along the inside face of each with a file. True, tools will wear out faster if this is done—but it is much easier to work with clean, sharp tools.

Garden walkways

Walks made of flagstone, broken concrete, or used bricks in varied patterns

Early spring hints

1. Delay tilling the soil until soil moisture is right—neither too wet nor too dry. Tilling such soil now can cause crusting later on.

Test soil by squeezing a handful. If it forms a ball, wait until soil becomes dryer and crumbly before tilling.

2. Don't take a chance: wait until fall to transplant shrubs and trees.

3. Do soon: divide and transplant perennials.

4. Fertilize any shrubs you didn't feed in the spring.

5. Gather and destroy fallen blossoms of camellias to help prevent camellia petal blight.

6. Replace winter mulch with fresh material.

7. Fertilize spring-flowering bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, and hyacinths. Use two pounds of complete fertilizer per 1,000 square feet.

8. If available, apply well rotted cow manure to roses.

9. Prune deciduous flowering trees and shrubs as they finish.

10. If outer leaves of African violets become limp, it often helps to prevent their touching the rim of the pot. Use aluminum foil or paraffin to cover the rim.

11. Secure caladium tubers to start indoors now for use in shady spots of the summer garden.

12. Remove faded blooms from spring-flowering bulbs (deadheading). But leave foliage to manufacture food for next spring's blooms.

are more pleasing to the eye than those made of solid concrete. Grass planted between flagstones or pieces of concrete will reduce sunlight reflection and make such walks cooler—a bonus to nearby plants.

Such walkways are best laid flush with the soil line—this makes for easier mowing.

Ground covers

While the weather is still cool, plant ground covers to carpet those bare areas where grass is such a problem to establish. Several excellent ground covers are well-adapted to use beneath shade trees, in areas where a grassy cover is difficult: ajuga (bugle weed), pachysandra, mondo grass, periwinkle, ivy and liri-ope. In open sunny areas use one of the low spreading junipers, cotoneaster (rock spray) or santolina.

Lawns

Now established lawns as short as possible. After lush growth begins in early summer, set the mower higher in order not to cut away too much top growth which will be needed to maintain a good root system.

Rake up any clippings and dead grass remaining from winter. If needed, apply a complete fertilizer such as 8-8-8 at the rate of about 25 pounds per 1,000 square feet of lawn space.

Make an application of pre-emergence weed killer if crabgrass has been a problem. Be sure to remove any pine straw or leaves before applying the weed killer. You'll want to check with a local garden supply dealer to be sure you purchase the correct chemical for your particular type of lawn grass.

Vegetables

This is a good time to sow seeds of cool-weather vegetables, such as spinach, beets, English peas, edible-podded peas, turnips, kohlrabi, chives, mustard and radishes.

Transplants of broccoli, cabbage, collards, brussels sprouts, kale and cauliflower will thrive in the cool days ahead.

Sow seeds of tomatoes, eggplant and bell peppers to be started indoors. They'll be ready for transplanting to the garden after the danger of late frosts has passed. Be sure that the young plants receive plenty of light or they will become too tall, spindly and weak.

Fertilizing

Shrubs and small trees are fertilized by broadcasting the fertilizer granules beneath plants at the rate recommended on the label. Cover the area beneath the canopy of the plant, extending out as far as the drip-line area in direct line with the tips of the branches. You'll want to use a fertilizer such as 5-10-10 or 12-6-6. Camellias, azaleas, blueberries, rhododendrons, viburnums and gardenias may have a yellowish cast to their leaves if the soil pH is higher than 5.0 to 6.0. If you should live in an area of alkaline soil, consider applying an acid-forming fertilizer made especially for these plants. A soil test is advisable; it can be secured through your county agent's office.

Large trees are more difficult to fertilize as they are more deeply rooted. The process of deep-root feeding is most helpful and relatively inexpensive. You can have a professional handle the job by injecting fertilizer deep into the soil. If you prefer to do the job yourself, buy fertilizer spikes and drive them into the soil around the trees as directed—or use a root-feeding tool that attaches to the garden hose.



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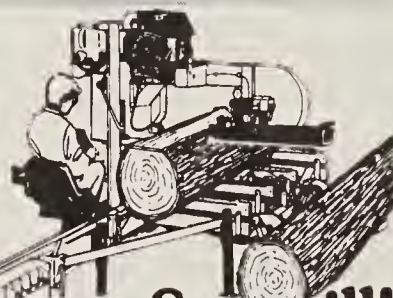
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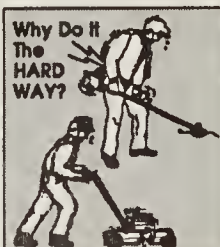
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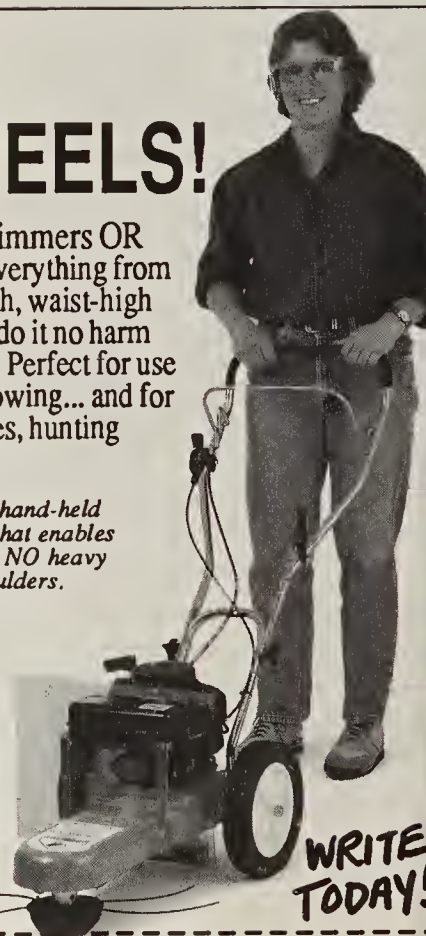
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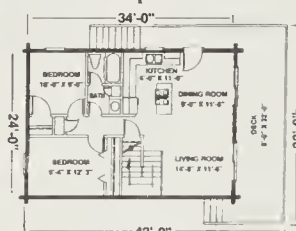
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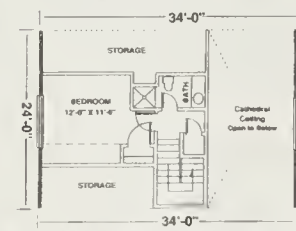
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Most co-op names arise naturally from the territories they serve.

Co-op names: No frills and a hint of where to find them

After North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations adopted the name Carolina Electric Cooperatives for the 28 co-ops and their state office in Raleigh, I thought you might be interested in seeing how the co-ops have identified themselves over the years.

Most of them bear names that arise naturally from the territories they serve. The local people who organized the co-ops tended to draw familiar names from their communities—those of counties, mountains, rivers, sounds, islands and regions. The approach has made for straightforward, no-frills corporate titles that offer at least a hint of where the businesses are based.

In practice, the official names generally became secondary in the early days, as the co-ops almost invariably came to be known as "the REAs." The acronym actually refers to the Rural Electrification Administration, the federal lending agency estab-

lished to spur extension of power lines into the countryside.

Still, even a visitor from abroad could have done a credible job of spotting the co-ops' turf if he were armed solely with a list of the formal names and a map of North Carolina. He probably would not do as well today because the original list has been trimmed through mergers, eliminating some the names that would show up on a map.

As you can see in the box below, 13 co-ops use county names, and five of them refer to two counties. Their names still link them to their home bases but may no longer describe their territory. They've grown to provide service in 65 counties.

The names with the strongest link to specific locations identify the state's two island co-ops: Cape Hatteras and Harkers Island. Ocracoke Island residents also had their own co-op at one time but it was absorbed by the Pantego-based Tideland EMC.

Earlier, Tideland adopted that regional name when Pamlico-Beaufort EMC merged with Woodstock

Origins of North Carolina Co-op Names

Counties

Brunswick, Shallotte
Carteret-Craven, Morehead City
Davidson, Lexington
Edgecombe-Martin County, Tarboro
Halifax, Enfield
Haywood, Waynesville
Jones-Onslow, Jacksonville
Pitt and Greene, Farmville
Randolph, Asheboro
Rutherford, Forest City
Surry-Yadkin, Dobson
Union, Monroe
Wake, Wake Forest

Rivers

South River, Dunn
Lumbee River, Red Springs
Pee Dee, Wadesboro

Roanoke, Rich Square
French Broad, Marshall

Islands

Harkers Island
Cape Hatteras, Buxton
Mountains
Blue Ridge, Lenoir

Regions

Albemarle, Hertford
Piedmont, Hillsborough
Central, Sanford
Tideland, Pantego
Crescent, Statesville

Other

Four County, Burgaw
Tri-County, Dudley



Natural settings gave names to Cape Hatteras EMC (left) and Blue Ridge EMC.

EMC. That step phased out two county names and a name referring to a Hyde County community. Woodstock, which was established in 1738 and for many years was the Hyde county seat, later disappeared.

A similar situation occurred when Crescent EMC, Statesville, took that name after two co-ops merged. They were Davie EMC, Mocksville, and Cornelius EMC, which was headquartered in the Mecklenberg County town of Cornelius.

Other names on the list give only a general idea of where the co-ops are: Central, Sanford; Piedmont, Hillsborough; Albemarle, Hertford. In Albemarle's case, both the co-op and the region drew their names from the Albemarle Sound, which touches several northeastern counties. Roanoke EMC, Rich Square, serves territory that's touched by the Roanoke River but the river flows far beyond it.

Other co-ops that bear the names of rivers are French Broad EMC, Marshall; Pee Dee EMC, Wadesboro;

Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs; and South River EMC, Dunn.

The French Broad, once known simply as Broad River, took the new name when the land was held by the French in the 1700s. The Pee Dee may have drawn its name from Catawba Indian words meaning "something good" or "capable." Lumbee is another name for the Lumber River. South River runs through Cumberland, Sampson and Bladen counties but Carteret County also claims a river by that name.

In addition, only a vague notion of location is conveyed by the name Blue Ridge EMC. The mountain range extends across North Carolina and reaches south to Georgia and north to West Virginia. The co-op, based in Lenoir, serves an area

stretching north and west to the Virginia and Tennessee borders. Indeed, the name often leads to mix-ups when the co-op is confused with Blue Ridge Mountain EMC, which is based in Young Harris, Ga.

Finally, two of the EMCs have names describing their service areas but they could be anywhere: Tri-County, Dudley and Four County, Burgaw. In fact, Tri-County is one of 17 electric co-ops in the country using that name or variations of it. There's also a Four County EPA (Electric Power Association) in Columbus, Miss.

With almost 1,000 co-ops in the country, it's not surprising that some names crop up more than once.

Next month, we'll look at a few of them—and at some of the most interesting and colorful names that apply to co-ops in other states.

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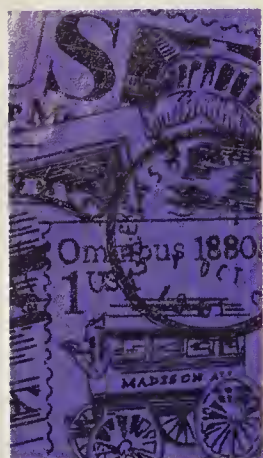
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Readers react: kudos, gratitude and a question.

Seven more USS Bismarck survivors surface

.....

I wanted to thank you for publishing my notice of the reunion of the USS Bismarck Sea CVE 95 and VC 86 in November 1991. The reunion took place in Norfolk, Va., in October 1992.

Thought you'd like to know that we have found seven more of our survivors due to your publication's help. We had all seven of them attend the reunion in Norfolk with their wives. They were very happy to see their old shipmates and to retell all the old sea stories that had been held back all these years.

A total of 111 survivors and their wives attended the reunion.

This year's reunion will be held at the Peppernill Hotel, Reno, Nev. on Oct. 12-16. Contact me at HC2, Box 298W, Canyon Lake, Tex. 78133.

*James R. Taylor
Canyon Lake, Texas*

Taylor is president of the USS Bismarck Sea CVE 95 and VC 86 Survivors Association.

Article "filled a niche" in promoting NCDA gift guide

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Just wanted to thank you for the fine article in your November issue on the new 1992 North Carolina Gift Guide.

With your wide and primarily rural subscription base, we were able to promote this catalog to hundreds of thousands of North Carolina residents we might not otherwise reach. Your editorial support filled a niche we were not able to cover with advertising, and we appreciate the coverage.

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*James A. Graham
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Raleigh*

Did land transaction change family's history?

.....

I read your article on page 6 of the January issue with great interest. The man who sold the land the Mast Farm Inn is located on for a rifle, a dog and a pair of leggings was my great, great grandfather, Samuel Hicks. I've often heard my grandfather, Roby Hicks, tell about it. We have wondered if he had kept it if it would have changed our history.

I enjoy *Carolina Country* very much.

*Viola Ward
Route 3, Banner Elk*

"Kudos to you" for using recycled paper and soy ink

.....

I always enjoy your very interesting and helpful magazine. Your Journal about the animal "Who's Who" (January) was a kick.

The article on the Solar House is very interesting. Let's hope that Bill Clinton's administration will speed up solar development and make it a viable power for the average person.

Kudos to you especially for using recycled paper and soy ink. If the whole publishing industry would follow your example, think of the environmental effects—forests allowed to grow, no more ink-polluted streams, etc.

Thank you!

*Anna-Lisa Fale
Sherrill's Forest*

Why Are
We Offering Our
Nationally Advertised

Feather-StepTM COMFORT SHOES

GUARANTEED TO
FIRST 10,000 WHO
RESPOND BEFORE
MAY 31

for only
\$10



\$10 Offer

How can we offer them for only \$10—are they stolen? No, they are *NOT* stolen. They're the same fabulous featherweights we nationally advertise in leading media all over America. And we really *will* offer you a pair for only \$10 (**guaranteed!**) if you are among the first 10,000 who respond to this publicity ad.

Goodbye to Tired Feet

Feather-Steps are *near-weightless* to fight fatigue, *slipper-soft* to eliminate friction. Stay-cool, cushioned linings keep you cool and comfy even in summer. Non-skid soles help you walk safely on wet or icy surfaces—even the deck of a boat. Classic good looks make this the perfect all-around shoe for work and play—so featherlight you may forget you're wearing shoes at all!



Women's
Feather-Steps
Also
Available!

- World's friendliest shoe
- Featherweight construction
- Glove-soft luxury styling
- Classic good looks
- Soft flexible uppers
- Double top-stitching
- Extra foam-cushioned
- Ideal for business, dress or casual wear
- Water-resistant
- Scuff-resistant
- Stay-cool lining
- Ribbed sole
- Anti-skid tread

SORRY—We reserve right to limit 5 pairs per address at this amazing price but if you respond early enough (before May 25) you can order up to 7 pairs. Our amazing \$10 offer will not be made in *any* store at *any* price since we sell direct to the public. No dealers or wholesalers, please. We reserve right to extend time and quantity guarantees. **Hurry!**

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AMAZING \$10 OFFER

Feather-Step Comfort Shoes	Item #	Size	Price	How Many	Total
Men's Specify Sizes 7-12	Black R5225		\$10		\$
	Brown R5226		\$10		\$
	Gray R5227		\$10		\$
Women's Specify Sizes 5-10	White R5379		\$10		\$
	Black R5380		\$10		\$
	Taupe R5381		\$10		\$
FULL ONE YEAR MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE		Shpg. & hdlg. (\$3.75 for each pair)			\$
		Subtotal			\$
		In NY & CA add sales tax			\$
		Total			\$

(R52283-09)

Amount Enclosed \$ _____
☐ (Make check payable to RBM Ltd.)
 Or charge to: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER
 (Enter all 13 or 16 card numbers below)

Card # _____ Card Exp. Date (Mo) _____ (Yr) _____

Mr/Ms _____
 Mrs/Miss _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail to: RBM Ltd., Feather-Step Shoes,
 Dept. 723-118, Box 3700, Hicksville, NY 11802

Allow up to 6-8 weeks for shipment.

COMP. 12/87/11/88/89

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